Sale of Synthetic Milk

457. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale sale of synthetic milk in Delhi, UP. and H.P.,

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and the action taken in the matter; and

(c) whether Government propose to bring milk within the purview of the Essential Commodities Act and if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NT. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Government is aware of reports regarding sale of synthetic milk in some States. Accordingly all State Governments were requested to take necessary action to contain this problem on an urgent basis.

As per reports received from the States of Delhi, U.P. & H.P. the position in the matter is given below:

1. Delhi

In Delhi inspite of intensive raids to pick up samples of milk, no samples of milk, no samples have been found to give any resemblance of synthetic milk. In all 403 samples of milk lifted from December's 98 to 15.11.99, only 66 samples have been found to be not confirming to the PEA standards due to deficiency of either fat or SNF content. Action for prosecution has already been initiated.

2. U.P.

6687 samples of milk were lifted from 15.4.99 to 15.8.99. Out of 4181 samples analysed, 1350 samples were found adultereted due to presence of urea, glucose & corbonate (urea-400, glucose-178 & corbonate-772). Action for prosecution in case of adulterated slamples is being taken under the PFA Act, 1954.

3. H.P.

H.P. has not reported any instance of sale of synthetic milk in the State.

(c) "Milk" already exists in the list of essential commodities under category of "foodstuff' as defined in Essential Commodities Act.

WHO Aid for Health Schemes

458. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organization had recently conducted a programme on the medical facilities vis-a-vis the use of essential drugs in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the detail of the discussions held; and

(c) the extent of aid,proposed to be given by the World Health Organization in the development of health schemes in different parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a)No, Sir.

(b)Does hot arise.

(c) Durnig 1998-99 biennium, World Health Organization allocated US $ 13,502,000 (approximately Rs. 58 crores) for 40 projects in the development of health schemes. During 2000-2001 biennium, World Health Organization has proposed to allocate US $ 13,760,000 for Government of India/World Health Organization collaborative programme. The activities in respect of which are in the process of being finalized.

Contamination of Life Saving Drugs in Pune

459. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether batches of the life-saving drugs, Methargin injections and tablets, given to pregnant mothers and children have been found contaminated by the Health authorities in Pune; and

(b)if so, the details of the findings in this regard, the number of cases of adverse effects of the drug and the casualties; if any, involved and the steps taken by Government to withdraw the contaminated drugs and other action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) (i) One batch of Injection Methyl Ergometrine Maleate (MEM) was reported sub-standard on 14.7.99 by the State Family Welfare Bureau, Pune, Maharashtra.

(ii) On 6.8.99 and 1.9.99 three batches of Tablet Methyl Ergometrine Mateate (MEM) were reported to have been found in powder form by the State Family Welfare Bureau, Pune, Maharashtra.

(b) (1) Upon receipt of reports from the State Government, MOH&FW initiate the following actions:—

(i) Use of reported batch of Injection MEM was suspended on 21.7.99. Subsequently on 24.8.99, use of all the batches of Injection was suspended and all the concerned State Drug Controllers were asked to draw samples for testing as remedial action. The use of the reported batches of tablets Methyl Ergometrine Maleate was suspended by State Government.

(ii) Each manufacturer was directed to replace the rejected batches.